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congenial task; and there are some internal evidences which suggest that he has proceeded with it in a leisurely way. Much work has been bestowed upon it, but without bringing it into the class of scholarly books, or warranting it being grouped among books which add something new to the subject of which they treat. It is none the less a distinctly interesting and serviceable addition to the literature of the British Parliament. It is interesting by reason of its anecdotal and personal sides, and by reason also of Mr. Graham's style, which is characterized by a quiet humor which, save in Jennings's "Anecdotal History of the English Parliament," is lacking in books concerned with either the House of Lords or the House of Commons. Mr. Graham's volume is likely to be serviceable chiefly because it is the only book of recent years treating of both the Houses of Parliament, and because it contains a good sketch of the development of the Cabinet, and a really admirable history of the old and new Palaces of St. Stephen's. Here Mr. Graham, as might be expected from the environment in which he lived so long, is at his best.

Authorities are freely cited for statements and for many of the stories of Parliament life which Mr. Graham has interwoven in his book. Proximity to the Journals of both Houses might have suggested a test of some of these stories from the wide range of biography on which Mr. Graham has drawn. But in that case the "Mother of Parliaments" might have lost some of its human interest, and some of its readableness. All the same the Sheridan incident detailed on page 208 would have read just as well if the date had been given correctly. There is no excuse for attributing an Irish bull to Sheridan in 1840 in view of the fact that Sheridan died in 1816. But here and there Mr. Graham is a little slipshod as to dates, although his aim was a "book sufficiently instructive to appeal to the student, and yet not so technical as to alarm or repel the general reader."

The Imperial Administrative System in the Ninth Century, with a Revised Text of the Kletorologion of Philotheos. By J. B. BURY. (British Academy, Supplemental Papers I. Oxford: University Press, 1911. Pp. 179.)

The administrative institutions of the Roman empire as organized by Diocletian and Constantine, and kept, with some modifications, down to the death of Justinian are known from sources ample enough.

But for 300 years after Justinian's death there are no documents which bear directly upon the administrative service. About the middle of the ninth century a new series of sources begin, which show an administrative system quite different from that in Justinian's time. The most important document of this later series is the *Kletorologion* of Philotheos, compiled in the year 899 A. D. in the reign of Leo VI. This *Kletorologion* is a list of the officials written down by the lord high chamberlain (*atriklines*) of the court, and contains, besides the lists and the dignities of officials, and their insignia and order of precedence, long and minute directions for the court banquets. Professor Bury recognizes the difficulty of attempting to build up the history of centuries of administrative institutions from bare lists of officials, and therefore has confined his investigation to the "determination of the functions of the officials, and to the origin of the offices and of the orders of rank." He seems to prove his contention that the Byzantine coördinate administration of the ninth century is a gradual development, and not a revolution, from the earlier system, which propped up its structure of a divine hierarchy by a system of subordinate administration. In the investigation of the eighteen different grades of official dignity, from the *silentarius* with his golden staff to the Caesar with a crown without a cross, Professor Bury has hit upon a number of interesting and enlightening facts which throw light upon many things in the late Roman empire and in the middle ages, which have not been rightly understood hitherto. One of the most interesting is in connection with the study of the title Caesar. Mommsen (in *Staatsrecht*, 11³, 1140) explains the title of Caesar as a promise of succession under the Principate. But Professor Bury shows that after Theodosius I it was the invariable practice of the emperor, if he had a son, to make him his colleague (*Basileus* and *Augustus*). After Maurice, the title Caesar was only conferred on persons who might, in certain events, succeed to the throne.

In addition to the investigation of the functions of officials and the conclusions got therefrom as to administrative institutions of the ninth century Byzantine empire, Professor Bury has also (pp. 131-179) reëdited most carefully the Greek text of the *Kletorologion*.

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